



# UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **Defendant Sentenced in Identity Theft/Credit Card Fraud Scheme**

**(Norfolk, Virginia)** - Danesa Williams, a native of Oakland, California, was sentenced today on charges of conspiracy and aggravated identity theft. United States District Judge Robert G. Doumar sentenced Williams to serve 84 months in prison and to pay \$220,081 in restitution. Chuck Rosenberg, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, announced her sentencing.

Williams was arrested in Chesapeake, Virginia on January 10, 2006, while attempting to purchase two Rolex watches worth over \$27,000 using a false identification and a stolen credit card. On February 22, 2006, a Norfolk federal grand jury indicted her on charges of conspiracy, credit card fraud, and aggravated identity theft. On April 17, 2006, Williams pled guilty to counts one and three of the indictment.

From April 2005 until her January 2006 arrest in Chesapeake, Williams traveled throughout the country under assumed names and used fake and stolen identifications and stolen credit cards to rent cars and hotel rooms and to make purchases of high-end clothing, jewelry, and watches. During that time period, Williams fraudulently purchased over \$347,000 in merchandise in cities such as Boston, MA, Los Angeles, CA, and Aspen, CO, at retailers such as Boccelli, Sassan Clothing, Christian Dior, Chanel, Bailey, Banks & Biddle, and Guess Clothing.

Special Agent George Karidias of the United States Secret Service and Detective Tim Adams of the Chesapeake Police Department investigated the case. Assistant United States Attorney Robert J. Krask prosecuted the case.

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